

We crossed the Delaware river to Camden City, N. J., then returned and visited Carpenter's Hall built in 1724, in which the first Continental Congress convened Sept. 5, 1774, and where the committee appointed by congress formulated the Declaration of Independence. In this hall can be seen the chairs and desks used by the Continental fathers of this great nation, whose Star-Spangled Banner declares liberty to the sons and daughters of America.

We now take a street car and take a run to Germantown to visit the home of our fore-fathers, (from a Christian stand-point) whose bodies are sweetly resting in the cemetery in the rear of the old original church edifice. Here we copied from a marble slab as follows: "Alexander Mack, the first minister and organizer of the church of the Brethren in the year 1708. Born at Schreisheim, Germany, 1679, came to Germantown 1729, died 1735. Removed from Axe's burying ground 1894. Aged 56 years.

The first inscription was in German and is placed at the foot of the grave. A new headstone of white marble has the inscription in English. The dark slab at the foot of the grave was no doubt at first the head stone. We copied one other epitaph as follows: "In memory of Elizabeth Mack who departed this life May 6, 1811. Aged 85 yrs, 7 mo., 11 da.

"Our God will cause the trumpet sound,
To bid our kindred rise,
Awake ye nations under ground,
Ye saints ascend the skies."

While Brother Bauman was making search to find the sexton of the church, the writer discovered a marble tablet near the top of the old original house with the date 1770 inscribed. The new addition has two fine, white marble columns at the entrance, marble steps, and a block of marble in the corner next the entrance with the following inscription.

Brethren church organized (1723) 1896.

In 1895 the new addition was erected. After finding the sexton who was a fine old brother and who kindly went with us thru the rain and slush and opened up the door of the old Brethren church edifice of America. The exterior is the same old stone building; but the interior shows some progression. The square ceiling was changed to an oval. New pews have taken the place of the old ones; contrary to the Annual meeting ruling a "chapel organ" has been placed therein. In order to be certain it was an organ I took the liberty to open it up and tap the keys, therefore I am sure that it is a "Chapel organ." The good old brother informed us that it was used in the Sabbath school and church services. Here we have no criticism to offer.

Upon a fine tablet placed in the old apartment is the following inscription: "In memory of Christopher Sower, Bishop of Church of the Brethren. Born 1721. Died 1784. Baptized 1737. Deacon 1747. Minister 1748. Bishop 1753. Published the Holy Bible, second edition 1763. Third edition 1776. Only son of Christopher Sower, born 1693 in Laasphe, Germany. Came to America 1724, commenced publishing in Germantown 1738. Published First Quarto Edition of the Holy Bible 1743. Died in Germantown 1758.

The new addition to the old Germantown "Brethren church" is also built of stone, with two white marble columns and marble top finish, with marble slabs outside of the entrance, also marble block in corner next the door, with inscription as heretofore stated. The interior is well finished, with the entire floor carpeted and all the pews cushioned. A baptistry under the pulpit, and a very agreeable seat for the pastor, etc. In the basement are dressing and toilet rooms, also a fire-proof department for keeping secure the church records. A lady's baptismal skirt. Rai-

ment for the administrator. The edifice is quite modern, with modern conveniences.

A tablet near the entrance contains as follows:

"This church is a memorial to Catharine Dedaker who entered into rest 14 Jan., 1858, Daughter of Jacob and Sarah Yeigler, and grand-daughter of Alexander Mack, Junior. Erected in grateful memory by her son Jacob Y. Davis of San Francisco, who passed away in Philadelphia, 28 Oct., 1896. Age 78 years." "Jacob Y. Davis' wife was cremated in San Francisco, her ashes being sent to Germantown and buried." Afterwards Davis died in Philadelphia, his body was placed in a copper casket during a short period, then sent to the crematory. After cremation the ashes were returned and buried with those of his mother. The copper casket was still in the basement of the edifice Feb. 25, 1902. We inquired of the sexton what the congregation intended to do with the casket. He said, sell it.

After thanking the good old brother for his kindness and saying farewell and God bless you, we left this historic place and scene returning to Elder L. S. Bauman's Christian home well pleased with our day's work. After a brief rest and bountiful supper we started for the Gospel Alone Mission where we enjoyed a pleasant service together in Bible exegesis. I was very sorry that our dear brother I. D. Bowman could not be with us. May the Lord bless him richly in his work as a missionary. And may the tri-une God bless him and his kind Christian family, and all other families and individuals whose hospitalities I shared so largely during my eastern trip. After services and scripture talk Brother Bauman took me back to his home. We soon retired and unconsciously passed into the lulling arms of *Aurora Sumno* to await the dawning of a new day. After breaking the fast and feeling sufficiently recuperated we started to visit the wonderful Zoological Garden. Time, space and memory would be insufficient to delineate what we saw and heard. From the Zoo we passed the original residence of William Penn. The structure is of brick, one story, and perhaps 18 by 20 feet square. Our next stop was "Memorial Hall."

J. B. WAMPLER.

(To be continued.)

Married

BOWMAN—HANSEL.—At the home of the bride's parents, Rev. Strother Hansel, February 26, 1902, Mr. Watson D. Bowman and Miss Nevada Hansel. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Hursh of the United Brethren church. The bride is the daughter of brother Strother Hansel who has been pastor of the Brethren church in this vicinity for the past twenty-five years. The groom is the son of a prominent farmer.

MRS. A. L. BRUST.

East Elkport, Iowa.

BANZHAF—FUSS.—On the 22 of February 1902, Morris Banzhaf and Mary J. Fuss, by the undersigned, at the home of the groom in this city. Both these young people are members of the Brethren church in this city. We can only wish them continual happiness and prosperity as they journey hand in hand toward life's sunset and immortality's morning.

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Church Directory

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L. S. Bauman, Philadelphia, Pa., 2121 N. Camac Street.

I. D. Bowman, Philadelphia, Pa., 2000 S. 17th St.

Vianna Detwiler, Philadelphia, Pa., 2000 S. 17th St.

Wm. M. Lyon, Washington, D. C., 315-9th Street, S. E.

J. O. Talley, Chicago, Illinois, 1080 West Polk St.

H. R. Holsinger, Lathrop, California.

J. L. Kimmel, Dayton, Ohio, 23 Reist St.

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[The W. C. T. U. brought out above letter.]

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